



ALUMNI 2 REPORT 0 0 8

SASKATCHEWAN LEGISLATIVE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The 2008 Internship Program - A Year in Review

By the 2008 Saskatchewan Legislative Interns

2008 was an interesting year for the Saskatchewan Legislative Internship Program. With the recent provincial election, there was a change in government and many new faces in the legislature. We had the opportunity to work with former cabinet ministers, new Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs), and legislative secretaries. It was also a great chance to see a new government and a new opposition in action.

Table of Contents

The 2008 Internship Program – A Year in Review – Pages 1 and 2

A Message from the Speaker – Page 3

Director's Message – Pages 3, 4 and 5

Alumni News – Pages 5 and 6

A Message from Monique Lovatt – Pages 6 and 7

The 2008 SLIP Comparative Study Tour – Pages 7 and 8

Alumni Profiles – Pages 9, 10 and 11

Meet the 2008 Interns – Pages 11, 12 and 13

Sponsors – Page 14

SLIP on Facebook and Contact Information – Page 15



The 2008 SLIP Interns. Left to Right: Dwayne Meisner, Avery Kelly, Justin Redekop, and Patrick Button

The first conference we went to was the Northern Saskatchewan Economic Development Summit in Prince Albert. Except for the cold, it was a great experience. Kiley Bear (Frantik), one of the 2007 interns and now Communications Manager for the City of Prince Albert, set up meetings for us with Mayor Jim Scarrow, and Linda Nosbush, the Social Development Officer. Ms. Nosbush treated us to tea in her office and told us all about the innovative social welfare programs being run by the city and community groups. The weather fell below minus 40 during our visit and our car stopped running. Luckily Kiley gave our car a boost and saved us all from an icy death. Thanks Kiley!



At the tradeshow for the Prince Albert Economic Development Summit

Some or all of us went to several other conferences including the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA) and the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM) in Regina, and the Canadian Community Economic Development Network (CCEDnet) Conference, the Duty to Consult Roundtable discussions, and the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN) Winter Assembly in Saskatoon.

Our comparative study tour took us to Ottawa, London, England, and Belfast, the capital of Northern Ireland. It was interesting to learn that even though London, Ottawa, and Saskatchewan share the Westminster system, there are some differences that have implications for the political system. Belfast's government is entirely different from any other form of government. The concept of parties splitting up the control of government departments based on their share of seats is definitely something new. The trip was a life-changing experience for all of us, and we were surprised with how much we learned.

This year, the interns got involved with the Globe Theatre in Regina. We volunteered by handing out

programs and running the coat check for the performance of *Six Dance Lessons in Six Weeks*. We were lucky enough to see the show for free afterwards! We met with Andrew North, the General Manager of the Globe and we talked to him about the role of theatre in Regina and how the change in government, the economic boom, and the rise in fuel prices have affected the organization. It was a great experience for all of us and we each hope to be involved with the Globe in the future, either by attending performances or volunteering.

We hosted the second annual SLIP steak night at Bushwackers, which was a definite success. Many legislative staff, MLAs, SLIP alumni, family, and friends attended. We also hosted our wind-up at Crave Kitchen and Wine Bar. It was a great way to socialize and thank everyone for their overwhelming support of the internship program.

During our internship, we had the opportunity to meet and talk with several influential people. In addition to Mayor Jim Scarrow and Linda Nosbush and the many individuals on our trip (see "The 2008 SLIP Comparative Study Tour") we met Mayors Pat Fiacco and Don Atchinson, His Honour Dr. Gordon Barnhart, Pam Leyland and John Gormley of RAWLCO Radio, Vern Faulkner of the Prince Albert Daily Herald, the new provincial Green Party leader Amber Jones, and Ron Rucks from the union representing the Prince Albert pulp mill workers. Without the internship, we never would have been able to meet so many fantastic leaders in the province.

It seems like just yesterday when we started as interns, but it's over already! We had a great year as interns and we are well prepared for whatever the future might hold for us!

A Message from the Speaker

By Honourable Don Toth
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

On December 19, 2008 I was honoured to be elected as the Speaker of the Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly. With the election to the position of Speaker, new responsibilities fell on my lap – one of which is patron to the Saskatchewan Legislative Internship Program.



When I put my name forward for the position, I had very little knowledge of the responsibilities of the Speaker. During the first few weeks as Speaker, our Clerk, Mr. Greg Putz, kept informing me that there were numerous agencies for which I would be responsible.

Of all the agencies, Patron of the Legislative Internship Program is one of the most rewarding. Having a group of young men and women take seven months out of their busy lives and spend it at the

Legislative Assembly, working with MLAs from all political parties, is truly awesome. I was impressed by this year's legislative interns. Patrick Button, Avery Kelly, Dwayne Meisner and Justin Redekop appeared to enjoy the opportunity of learning first-hand how our legislative democracy works. No doubt the opportunity to travel to Ottawa, London, and Belfast were highlights of their internship term. I trust this year's interns found the program to be a valuable educational experience, and I wish them well in their future endeavours.

I look forward to continuation of the Program, as well as meeting new interns in the future. A special thank you goes to Mr. Ken Pontikes for the leadership and organization he provides in making the Legislative Internship Program a success.

Director's Message

By Ken Pontikes
Director, SLIP

After completing another successful year, four more interns have become alumni of the Saskatchewan Legislative Internship Program. Over the past seven



years, 29 individuals have had the opportunity to participate in the Program.

The Program's former interns are pursuing careers in government and other sectors. Others are continuing their education in law schools and

graduate programs across Canada.

Many of our alumni are taking positions of leadership and influence. As the years go by, I know we will see more of our alumni playing a larger and higher-profile role in shaping Saskatchewan and Canada.

We hope, through this Newsletter, to recognize the accomplishments of former SLIP interns. However, we don't want to confine ourselves to reporting on the progress of their careers. We also know that our

alumni are engaged in pursuits beyond employment. They are starting families, are volunteering their skills to support communities, and are tackling personal goals in culture, sport, academics, and other areas. So, please keep in touch with us and send us your news.

This year, we again benefited from the generous financial support of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan and the mentorship support of eight of its members. These components of support are critical to the Program. They allow us to fulfill our core mandate – providing post-secondary students with an opportunity to gain first-hand experience with the operations of the Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly and other legislatures, as well as a greater understanding of the application of parliamentary and democratic principles and processes.

We also are supported by several financial partners and corporate sponsors. This support has permitted us to fund the in-province and comparative study portions of our Program. This year, our interns were able to expand their out-of-province travel because of generous financial assistance from the University of Regina's International Experience Travel Fund and the Goldman Travel Fund.



Monique Lovatt, Patrick Button (2008), Stewart Low (2006), Rhiannon Stromberg (2005), Michel Carpentier (2006), and Ken at the SLIP Steak Night at Bushwakker Brewpub.

Also, the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association committed its support to the Program through a permanent sponsorship. Besides providing complimentary registrations for current interns to attend its annual convention, several additional registrations will be available for SLIP alumni. The

registrations include access to all plenary and educational sessions, as well as breakfasts and lunches. If any former intern is interested in attending a future SUMA convention, please contact me for further information.

In the four years that I have served as director, I am impressed by the on-going connection that many of our alumni have to the Program. Many former interns attend SLIP events. Several volunteer their time to provide support and advice to current interns.



The Interns with 2007 Intern Kiley Bear

A few have been able, through their employment, to organize briefings as components of the Program. This year, for example, Kiley Bear – a 2007 SLIP intern – supported the Program through her contacts as Communications Manager at the City of Prince Albert. She arranged for this year's interns to attend the Northern Saskatchewan Economic Summit in that city and to meet with various civic and community officials.

I am grateful for any assistance that former interns can give to the Program. Please contact me if you have any ideas for programming opportunities that may be available or that you might be able to organize for us through your employment or personal contacts. Also, please come to the SLIP events – you will be receiving invitations as long as you keep us informed of your current contact information. If you are able, I would also be happy to list you as one of our financial donors – all cash donations are issued

tax deductible receipts through our affiliation with the University of Saskatchewan.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the support that we have received since the inception of SLIP from Mr. John Brockelbank. John has been a member of the SLIP Selection Committee since its inception in 2002 and has recently decided to retire from these duties. He has served on the Selection Committee in his capacity as a former Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. Including the selection of the 2009 interns, every intern involved in the Program will have experienced his penetrating questions during

the interview process. I would like to thank John for his service to the Saskatchewan Legislative Internship Program and for his valuable contribution to selecting our interns.

In closing, I want to thank alumni for their on-going support to the Saskatchewan Legislative Internship Program. This support, in whatever form it takes, is appreciated and is important to the continued growth and success of our Program.

Alumni News

Baker, Cam (2003) is working as a Ministerial Assistant to the Hon. Bill Boyd, Saskatchewan Minister of Energy and Resources and Minister of Intergovernmental Relations.

Baker, Tim (2002) and **Kurylo**, Maria (2002) are proud parents of Violet Rose Kurylo Baker, who was born on October 14, 2007.

Barnett, Corinne (2003) is currently working as a Senior Economic Analyst in the Planning and Research Branch of Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming.

Bear (Frantik), Kiley (2007) is working for the City of Prince Albert as the Communications Manager.

Carpentier, Michel (2006) is working as the Executive Assistant for the President of Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming.

Contreras, Fabian (2004) is working for the Cultural Policy Branch of the Saskatchewan Ministry of Tourism, Parks, Culture, and Sport as a Policy Analyst.

Cooper, Bill (2003) is the Chief of Staff to the Hon. Bill Boyd, Saskatchewan Minister of Energy and

Resources and Minister of Intergovernmental Relations.

Gagnon, Haley (2006) spent last year working on a Master of Public Administration at Carleton University.

Gilbert, Justine (2007) is working for the Cultural Policy Branch of the Saskatchewan Ministry of Tourism, Parks, Culture, and Sport as a Policy Analyst.

Greyeyes, Jarita (2007) is attending the University of Victoria to take a Master of Arts in Indigenous Governance.

Harpauer-Digneau, Joanne (2004) is the General Manager at Welldone Mechanical Services Inc. in Saskatoon.

Leifso, Justin (2006) spent the past year teaching English as a Second Language in Korea.

Low, Stewart (2006) is working for the Saskatchewan Ministry of Advanced Education, Employment, and Labour as a Community Partnership Officer.

McKechney, Kim (2004) is serving as a Ministerial Assistant to the Hon. Dan D'Autremont, Saskatchewan Minister of Government Services.

Moellenbeck, Wendy (2002) is working as a Consultant in the Early Childhood Development Branch of the Saskatchewan Ministry of Education.

Paul (Waiser), Jessica (2002) and her husband Jay are proud parents of Owen William Paul, who was born on June 10, 2008. Jessica is the Director of Interactive Communications for Executive Council.



Jessica and Jay Paul with Owen William Paul

Peel, Alyssa (2005) is currently the Director for Policy and Information Dissemination with the Cross Government Research Policy and Practice Branch of the Government of British Columbia.

Pereira, Lucy (2007) is the Information and Correspondence Coordinator for the Oil Sands Branch of Sustainable Resource Development with the Government of Alberta.

Selnes, Jonathan (2007) is entering his second year of law school at Queen's University at Kingston.

Stromberg, Rhiannon (2005) is a Senior Policy Analyst for the Policy and Intergovernmental Unit of the Saskatchewan Ministry of Advanced Education, Employment, and Labour.

Toffan, Kyle (2005) is serving as the Director of Grants Administration for the Saskatchewan Ministry of Municipal Affairs.

Weiss, Lee (2003) is working for StarChoice Communications in Calgary.

The preceding information on former interns includes only that of which the Program is aware. All SLIP alumni are invited to keep the Program informed of changes in employment, of the receipt of awards and of interesting personal events and accomplishments in their lives. This information can be sent to Monique Lovatt and Ken Pontikes at any time. We will publish the information we receive in future editions of the Alumni Report.

A Message from Monique Lovatt

By Monique Lovatt
Administrative Assistant, SLIP

As of April 1, 2008 there have been some changes made in the Office of the Clerk dealing with the service and support responsibilities of the office.



My title is now Manager of Interparliamentary Relations and Protocol. With my new position I will retain the responsibilities associated with the administration of the Commonwealth

Parliamentary Association (Saskatchewan Branch), management of the Saskatchewan Legislative Internship Program, coordination of special Assembly ceremonies, delegations, visits, conferences and other inter-parliamentary related duties. This means that after 7½ years, SLIP is now officially part of my duties! I have also moved into Room 231, which is adjacent to the Office of the Clerk.

Sandra Gardner (Administrative and Chamber Services Co-ordinator) assumes my former administrative duties and Zorka Stepic (Administrative Assistant) continues with the day to day operation of the office.

Keep in touch. It's great to know where you are and what you are up to. I can still be reached at 306-787-2377 or mlovatt@legassembly.sk.ca.

The 2008 SLIP Comparative Study Tour

Prepared by the 2008 Saskatchewan Legislative Interns

Our comparative study trip was an amazing experience. For most of us, it was our first time visiting Europe. We were surprised with how much we learned and saw by the end of the trip. This year, the trip took us to Ottawa for four weekdays, London (England) for four weekdays and a weekend, and Belfast for three weekdays and a weekend.

Ottawa

Our first meeting in Ottawa was with the Chief Electoral Officer Mark Mayrand. Our meeting with him was supposed to be in the afternoon, but he called us to reschedule to have a morning meeting. What we realized later was that he was planning to raid the Conservative Party headquarters that afternoon, which was why he had to move the meeting! We didn't know this, of course, until we went to Question Period that afternoon.

Another highlight of the trip was meeting Kathleen Petty, the host of CBC Radio's "The House", Chief Political Correspondent Keith Boag, and Don Newman, host of "Politics with Don Newman". We asked them about their approaches to political journalism and discussed Saskatchewan Politics. We also got a tour of the CBC facility.

We met with many notable public figures such as Jack Layton, Saskatchewan MPs Ralph Goodale and Carol Skelton, Indian and Northern Affairs Minister Chuck Strahl, Supreme Court Justice Marshall Rothstein, Senator Jim Munson, key parliamentary staff, and officials from the UK and US embassies.



The SLIP Interns with Parliamentary Intern Karin Kronstal

London

London was a very fascinating place for all of us. There was so much to see, do, and learn that it was almost overwhelming. The most notable part of the trip was spending a day at the Palace of Westminster. We got a tour of this amazing building and had lunch with two of the clerks in the Stranger's dining room. It was one of the nicest meals many of us have ever had. We were able to meet with committee clerks from both the House of Commons and the House of Lords. It was interesting to watch Question Time as well, which differed significantly from what we were used to in Saskatchewan and Ottawa.

After hearing so much about the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association from Monique Lovatt, it was great to spend part of a day at the CPA secretariat office. We discussed the CPA with Shem Baldeosingh and Nicholas Bouchet and joined them

and their co-workers for lunch. The CPA staff were the friendliest group we met on our trip.

In London we also visited Canada House in Trafalgar Square. We were given a full tour of the House, and we talked about UK-Canada relations with one of the senior members of the foreign service.



Trafalgar Square during St. George's Day

In addition, we met with officials at the Foreign Commonwealth Office, the Department of Justice, and the Department for Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs. We met MP Josh Grogan of the Labour Party, and Christian Moon of the Liberal Democrats, who was in charge of the party's policy projects team.

Belfast

Belfast was a friendly and relaxing place to visit after busy London. Northern Ireland was very beautiful (the grass is actually greener there) and our experience was very memorable.

We spent the majority of our time at Stormont Estate, home of the Northern Ireland Assembly. Our first meeting was with Christine Darrah and Martin Wilson, the Bill Clerk, who explained the procedures and committees of the assembly. We met with Kate

McCullough afterwards who gave us a presentation about the assembly.

We also met with the Chief Electoral Officer, who explained the progress Northern Ireland has made to having stable elections. We met officials from the Department of Regional Development and the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister. We had an interesting time talking with Dawn Purvis, the only assembly member of the Progressive Unionist Party. It was enlightening to hear her perspective of women in Northern Ireland politics.

Although our trip was about two and a half weeks, it didn't seem long enough and before we knew it, we were back in Saskatchewan. We all wish we could go back to Ottawa and the UK some day. We were very privileged to go on such a great study trip and we can't wait to hear where the 2009 interns will go!



Stormont Estate, the home of the Northern Ireland Assembly

Alumni Profiles

Justine Gilbert (2007)



I completed SLIP in the summer of 2007. My time spent in the SLIP program was with two retiring, veteran MLAs – Elwin Hermanson and Joanne Crofford. This gave me the opportunity to absorb year’s worth of knowledge and experience. For me, this meant that I was able to learn more than any textbook could have ever taught me. My professional skills and my knowledge of government increased beyond my expectations.

As an intern, I had many great opportunities open to me. One such experience was the chance to contribute to the Music Industry Review, which gave me the opportunity to work closely with public servants within the Department of Culture, Youth and Recreation (now the Ministry of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport).

After finishing SLIP, I had planned to return to school full-time to complete my undergraduate degree. However, shortly after completing my time with SLIP, I was asked to work with the Department as a full-time policy analyst.

In the winter semester, I returned to my studies part-time while remaining as a part-time policy analyst. After completing the winter semester, I received the Dr. Peter Woroby Memorial Scholarship, which is awarded to the Economic student with the highest overall average in completed Economics courses.

I have spent this recent summer working full-time with the Ministry. In the year that I have spent with the Ministry, I have had the

opportunity to work on many exciting initiatives while developing my professional skills. In the fall, I am looking forward to working part-time, while returning to my studies. After completing my undergraduate degree, I will be pursuing a Masters degree.

Like many interns, I attribute my success, in part, to the opportunities that were created during SLIP and I am very proud to be an alumni member of such a fantastic program.

Jonathan Selnes (2007)



After completing SLIP, I began my first semester of law school at Queen's University in the fall of 2007. Going to university in a smaller town like

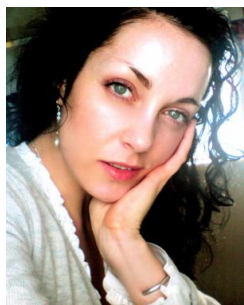
Kingston, Ontario was a big change from Calgary, where I did my undergraduate studies, because the small size of the city meant you were always surrounded by Queen's students. This, and the fact that the majority of students were from out of town, meant it was easy to meet new people and dive right in to Queen's and Kingston culture.

My first year of law school was a good experience but my first two months of summer were the best part of law school to date. For May and June of 2008 I attended the International Study Center at Herstmonceux Castle in East Sussex, England. Essentially, Queen's owns a Castle in the English countryside where it is possible to take undergraduate and law school courses. While at the Castle I studied International Public Law, International Criminal Law, and International

Human Rights Law. A highlight of the experience was the professors, which included two International War Crimes Prosecutors for our International Criminal Law course.

After finishing my studies at the Castle I was able to travel around Croatia for a week before returning to Saskatchewan to spend the rest of the summer working for my father at his law firm in Melfort.

Alyssa Peel (2005)



In starting, let me say that I remain incredibly grateful for the education that SLIP provided me early in my career. The dedication of those involved in organizing the program remains a model to me of what can be achieved through hard work and commitment to a vision – a special thank you in this regard is due to those in the Office of the Clerk (in my year Monique, Gwenn and the entire staff) and those at the Universities (the Director in 2005 was Ken Pontikes.) A very special thank you is also due to my MLA mentors through the process, Ted Merriman and Sandra Morin. I enjoyed very different experiences with both members, but both inspired me with their dedication to public life and demonstrated great strength through adversity. On a weekly basis I realize the richness of their rather unintentional at times teachings.

Immediately following the 2005 SLIP program, I traveled to Japan as part of a small Canadian delegation and along with delegations from 12 other countries, I participated in a series of meetings, events and conferences organized by the Japanese Cabinet Office. My time in Japan was spent exploring themes such as corporate

social contribution, the environment, development politics and international cooperation.

I returned to Saskatchewan to continue my education in political science, and began a MA in political science at the University of Regina. I was excited to be able to continue studies of Aboriginal-state relations and decolonization with Dr. Green. At this time I also began working with the Saskatchewan Institute of Public Policy and worked on contract with the University of the Arctic.

Through my undergraduate and graduate studies, and with the exposure SLIP provided to public policy in practice, I was increasingly convinced that the professional public service was the place that I could pursue the change I wanted to see in Saskatchewan and in our country. In fall 2006 I jumped at the opportunity to work with Saskatchewan's most senior public servant, the Deputy Minister to the Premier, Dan Perrins, through the Graduate School of Public Policy's internship program.

In spring of 2007, I made the difficult decision to leave Saskatchewan and moved to Vancouver. I had benefited from some incredible mentoring during my time with executive council in Regina and I was hooked on the public service. In the summer of 2007 I joined the British Columbia public service.

During my first six months with the BC government I wore two hats, working as both Special Advisor with the Deputy Ministers' Policy Secretariat in the Office of the Premier and as Initiatives Manager with the Cross Government Research Policy and Practice Branch (CGRPP) in the Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Early in 2008 I took on a new position as Director for Policy and Information Dissemination with CGRPP. I remain in this position and have offices in both Victoria and Vancouver, dividing my time as necessary between both cities.

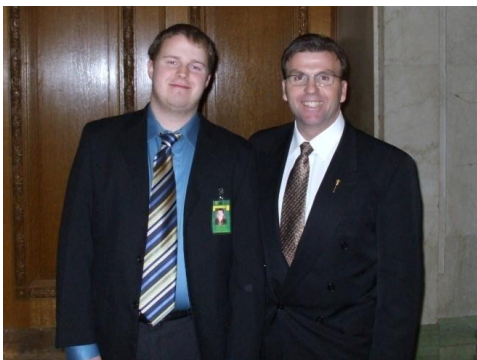
While I miss Saskatchewan's four seasons, the Roughriders, short commutes, and the incredible network of friends, colleagues and family that I left behind, moving west did mean a return to

my childhood roots and I am in awe of the beauty of my western home every day – whether I'm enjoying the daily walks with my dog along the seawall or sailing into the Victoria harbour on the seaplane. I am excited about the work that I am doing and while I may have landed here without the help of SLIP, I can say with confidence that my SLIP experience continues to inform my professional life and my personal development.

Meet the 2008 Interns

Patrick Button

Patrick convocated from the University of Regina with a Bachelor of Arts Honours, with High Honours in Economics and a minor in Political Science in Spring 2008. His honours paper used international statistical data to determine if mixed electoral systems encouraged voter turnout.



Patrick with MLA Mentor Greg Ottenbreit

While at the University of Regina, he volunteered as a board member of the University of Regina Students' Union, and the GBLUR Centre for Sexuality and Gender Diversity. Patrick also tutored several students in economics, math, and statistics.

As an intern, Patrick was mainly responsible for liaising with SLIP Alumni, organizing the wind-up celebration, and planning the community service component at the Globe Theatre. He started the internship with Greg Ottenbreit (Yorkton) from the government caucus where he researched community-based organizations in Saskatchewan. After the comparative study trip, he switched to Cam Broten (Saskatoon Massey Place) and helped write member's statements and several informational papers on public policy topics. Patrick's research paper for the program focused on Saskatchewan's public debt. It examined the many costs of public debt and evaluated strategies to finance debt reduction.

When Patrick is not working or studying, he enjoys watching the news, particularly political shows such as "Politics with Don Newman" on CBC. He loves watching documentaries and spends far too much time on Facebook. He is currently working on several visual art projects and is finally going to the gym on a consistent basis.

Patrick accepted an offer to attend the University of Toronto for graduate study starting in mid-August 2008. He will be completing a Master of

Arts degree in Economics. He received the Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Master's Scholarship, in the amount of \$17,500, to finance his studies. After his Masters degree, Patrick will likely pursue a PhD in Economics in hopes of eventually being able to teach at a university.

Avery Kelly

Upon completion of the internship, Avery will convocate in Fall 2008 from the University of Regina with a Bachelor of Arts with a major in Political Science and a minor in Leadership and Dialogue.

During her academic experience at the U of R Avery was fortunate to have the opportunity to travel extensively. With the help of several kind professors, who agreed to teach Avery directed reading courses long distance, she was able to spend the winter of 2006 nestled in the mountains of Nelson B.C while her partner Scott attended Music school. In 2007 Avery travelled to the People's Republic of China with several other students for five weeks where she studied China's environmental crisis and the burgeoning civilian environmental movement.

As an intern Avery was responsible for in-province travel, planning meetings with various public and political figures and facilitating the interns' participation in various conferences and events. For the first portion of the internship Avery worked with Opposition member Warren McCall (Regina Elphinstone Centre) where she learned a great deal about her member's duties as critic for the Ministry of First Nations and Métis Relations. Avery also helped research various social issues affecting inner-city Regina. Following the SLIP out-of-province trip Avery worked with government member Jeremy Harrison (Meadow Lake). As part of her work Avery was able to spend a week at the constituency office in Meadow Lake which was her first trip north of Prince Albert! Avery also

completed research and aided her member with correspondence while working with the government caucus.

In her free time Avery enjoys being outdoors and attending live music concerts. Whenever possible, Avery and her partner pack up the truck and head out camping. They frequently travel to music festivals all over Canada and the northern United States where they get to hike, swim, camp, dance, and meet other great people with a passion for the simple life. Avery has also enjoyed her time as a volunteer with the North Central Community Gardens in 2008. Community gardening provided Avery with the opportunity to be outside, make a positive impact on her community, and pursue her vegetarian lifestyle all while working with like minded people to feed and beautify Regina!

In the immediate future Avery plans on finding employment in Regina in a research or policy capacity. In the long term Avery would like to pursue graduate work in either policy or in an interdisciplinary program in the Fine Arts. For now her home and her heart remain in Saskatchewan but she would also like to travel further in Asia and Europe.



At the Globe Theatre after our meeting with the General Manager

Dwayne Meisner

Dwayne finished his Bachelor of Arts Honours in History in April 2008. He defended an

honours essay that questioned the interpretation of a set of events that occurred in 186 BC in Rome. He will expand this topic into his thesis for a Master of Arts at the University of Regina, beginning in September 2008.

Dwayne's administrative duties in SLIP included planning the comparative study trip to Ottawa, London, and Belfast, and updating the SLIP website. He spent the first term of the internship with Jim Reiter, the government MLA from Rosetown-Elrose, where he researched education property tax and education funding in general. The second term was spent with David Forbes, the opposition MLA from Saskatoon Centre, where he studied affordable housing and inclusive education for students with disabilities.



Visiting the Carrick-A-Rede Rope Bridge in Northern Ireland

The research paper which Dwayne wrote for the academic component of SLIP focused on Question Period. It questioned the various ways in which it functions as a mechanism for accountability. Taking into account both the 2007 and 2008 spring legislative sessions, it is a unique opportunity to look at the tactics employed by both the Saskatchewan Party and the NDP as they filled roles in both opposition and government.

In his spare time, Dwayne reads ancient texts and spends time with his family and friends.

Dwayne loves travelling, and recently visited Yellowknife. He enjoys going on walks around Wascana Lake. Dwayne plays guitar, and recently purchased a new acoustic guitar.

Dwayne is returning to work as a research assistant at the University of Regina, where he will be returning in September 2008 to begin graduate studies.

Justin Redekop

Immediately after high school, Justin received a diploma in Architectural Technology from the South Alberta Institute of Technology. He worked in the field for 18 months before attending the University of Saskatchewan where he convocated with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Studies.

During the internship, Justin was responsible for managing the finances of the internship, promoting the program, organizing the SLIP Steak Night, and helping to select the 2009 interns. He started the internship working with opposition MLA Sandra Morin (Regina Walsh Acres). After the comparative study trip, he switched to government MLA Joceline Schriemer (Saskatoon Sutherland).

During the summer Justin plays golf, baseball, and enjoys the outdoors. He also likes to read, cook, and watch movies. During the winter he plays old video games (mostly baseball) and reads. He used to snowboard and curl, but he is unable to now due to a knee injury. He is still looking for a new winter sport.

After the internship, he will begin a career in the public service. He is hoping to get a position where he can use both the architecture and political science aspects of his education. In the future he hopes to attend law school or complete a Masters degree.

Thank you to all of SLIP's sponsors and donors!

The generous contributions and support of our sponsors ensure that the Saskatchewan Legislative Interns can have an outstanding educational experience.

Financial Partners



LEGISLATIVE
ASSEMBLY
OF SASKATCHEWAN



Corporate Sponsors



Program Sponsors

Saskatchewan Institute of Public Policy (SIPP)

Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA)

Intern Sponsors

Office of the Dean, Faculty of Arts, University of Regina (Goldman Travel Fund)

International Student Success Office, University of Regina (International Experience Travel Fund)

University of Regina Students' Union (URSU)

SLIP on Facebook

The Saskatchewan Legislative Internship Program now has a facebook group! The name of the group is “Saskatchewan Legislative Internship Program” and it is available at <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=9727608346>. A facebook account is required to access and join the group.

The Facebook logo, consisting of the word "facebook" in white lowercase letters on a blue rectangular background.

The group serves several purposes. It advertises the program to possible interns, promotes SLIP events, updates members on the program, and serves as a social community for interns, alumni, and program supporters. Several alumni are already members of the group. Membership is open to anyone who is interested.

SLIP Contact Information

Ken Pontikes, SLIP Director

c/o Department of Political Studies
University of Saskatchewan
Room 283C, Arts Building
9 Campus Drive
Saskatoon, SK S7N 5A5

Tel: (306) 374-3873

Fax: (306) 966-5250

Email: kpp985@mail.usask.ca

Monique Lovatt, Manager of Interparliamentary
Relations and Protocol

Room 231, Legislative Building
2405 Legislative Drive
Regina, SK S4S 0B3

Tel: (306) 787-2377

Fax: (306) 787-0408

Email: mlovatt@legassembly.sk.ca

For further information on SLIP, please visit the
program's website:

www.legassembly.sk.ca/internship/index.htm